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central station sends a message frame to each of the plurality of remote stations to activate the respective microphones of the plurality of remote stations, thereby enabling staff at the particular nurse control station to listen for uncharacteristic noises in the plurality of patient rooms.

52. The system of claim 51 wherein central station sends the message frames in a predetermined order for a predetermined period of time to permit an automatic scan of the plurality of patient rooms.

REMARKS

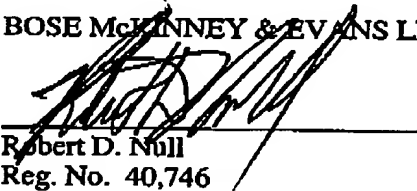
This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted as part of the above identified continuation application filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b).

With the entry of the foregoing amendments, the continuation application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Consideration of the claims leading to their allowance and passage of this continuation application to issuance is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees and credit any overpayment associated with this Preliminary Amendment to Bose McKinney & Evans LLP's Deposit Account No. 02-3223.

Respectfully submitted,

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